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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

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01/05/2004

WELLS ST. JOHN P.S. 601 W. FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1300 SPOKANE, WA 99201 EXAMINER

DEO, DUY VU NGUYEN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1765

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2004

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/653,157 | 08/31/2000 | Kevin J. Torck | MI22-1376 | 4651 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHODS OF REMOVING AT LEAST SOME OF A MATERIAL FROM A SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATE

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE | PUBLICATION FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | NO | \$1330 | \$0 | \$1330 | 04/05/2004 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED</u>. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

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| appropriate. All further co indicated unless corrected maintenance fee notificatio | | Patent, advance or in Block I, by (a | ders and notifi) specifying a | ication c | of maintenance fees v | rill be mailed to the current | t correspondence address as |
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| 09/653,157 | 08/31/2000 | | Kevin J. | | | MI22-1376 | 4651 |
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| Director for Patents is reque | ested to apply the Issue Fee a | nd Publication Fee | (if any) or to r | re-apply | any previously paid is | ssue fee to the application ide | entified above. |
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| This collection of inform obtain or retain a benefit application. Confidentiali estimated to take 12 min completed application fo case. Any comments on suggestions for reducing Patent and Trademark 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND TO: Commissione: | ation is required by 37 CFR by the public which is to f y is governed by 35 U.S.C. lates to complete, including g m to the USPTO. Time with amount of time you this burden, should be sent Office, U.S. Department ENTIFICE OF COMPLET for Patents, Alexandria, Vir | 1.311. The informille (and by the US 122 and 37 CFR 1. athering, preparing II vary depending require to comple to the Chief Informille Commerce, ACTED FORMS TO ginia 22313-1450. | nation is requi- SPTO to proce- 14. This collect 3, and submitti upon the indi- te this form a mation Office- tlexandria, Vi D THIS ADDI | red to ess) an etion is ng the ividual and/or r, U.S. irginia RESS. | | | |

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| SPOKANE, WA | | JITE 1300 | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| , | | | | 1765 | |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.